

Worship Leader Edition

Isaiah

July 23, 2023

8:30 AM

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *{Front Center}* (Rob)

+OPENING HYMN

“Hark, The Glad Sound!”

ELW #239

Verse 1

Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes,
The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
And ev'ry voice a song.

Verse 3

He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of his grace
To enrich the humble poor.

Verse 2

He comes the pris'ners to release,
In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before him burst,
The iron fetters yield.

Verse 4

Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
Your welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring
With your beloved name.

+GREETING *{Front Center}* (Britt Halaas)

L: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

+PRAYER OF THE DAY *{Front Center}* (Britt Halaas)

L: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming, strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING *(Al Buss)*

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

+GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Alleluia”

ELW pg. 151/Screen

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Please stand as you are able.

+THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-4

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

Rob Norris-Weber, Pastor

+HYMN OF THE DAY

"Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

ELW #256

Verse 1

"Comfort, comfort now my people;
Tell of peace!" So says our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness
Mourning under sorrow's load.
To God's people now proclaim
That God's pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their war is over;
God will reign in peace forever.

Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way.
Valleys, rise to greet the Savior;
Hills, bow down in humble favor.

Verse 3

Straight shall be what long was crooked,
And the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble,
As befits God's holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
Now on earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token
That God's word is never broken.

Verse 2

For the herald's voice is crying
In the desert far and near,
Calling us to true repentance,
Since the reign of God is here.

+THE APOSTLES' CREED {*Front Center*} (*Britt Halaas*)

Screen

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

+THE PRAYERS {*Front Center*} (*Britt Halaas*)

Screen

After each petition:

L: Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

+THE LORD'S PRAYER {*Front Center*} (*Britt Halass*)

Screen

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

+SHARING OF THE PEACE {*Front Center*} (*Britt Halaas*)

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

L: For all who are gathered, let us take a moment to welcome everyone with a wave of peace. For those of you online, please share a word of peace in the comment or chat. Most all as we go out into the world may we greet others as people of peace.

TIME OF REFLECTION AND RESPONSE {*Front Center*} (*Britt Halaas*) You may be seated.

L: In this time of reflection and response you are invited to fill out your welcome card. Share any reflections, questions, or prayers on the back. Also, take this time to prepare your offering. For those gathered the collection plates are in the front and back, and there is a QR code in the bulletin to give electronically. For those on-line please go to our website stlukesbloomington.org there is a link to give at the bottom of every page. Enjoy this time.

SONG

Joanne Turner

SENDING

+BENEDICTION (*Rob*)

L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

+SENDING HYMN

"All Earth is Hopeful"
Verses 1 & 4

ELW #266

Verse 1

All earth is hopeful,
The Savior comes at last!
Furrows lie open
For God's creative task:
This, the labor of the people
Who struggle to see
How God's truth and justice
Set ev'rybody free.

Verse 4

We first saw Jesus
A baby in a crib.
This same Lord Jesus
Today has come to live
In our world; he is present,
In neighbors we see
Our Jesus is with us,
And ever sets us free..

+DISMISSAL {*Front Center*} (*Britt Halaas*)

L: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

*Altar Flowers Today Given by
Dick & Judy Sandeen
In honor of our 8th Anniversary*